

Thousands of Trees For Soldier Hollow

BY MARGO BLACK
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Soldier Hollow is in the midst of being transformed from a largely treeless tract of land to one with thousands of trees and bushes.

This "instant forest" is the result of a lot of hard work from the folks at Spring Creek Nursery in Midway.

Nursery manager Liz Lewis said that they are about half-way done with the planting. They are expecting to be finished in six to eight weeks.

When the project is complete, there will be approximately an equal number of bushes and trees planted at Soldier Hollow. Lewis said she wasn't sure of the exact number they will be planting, but it is "several thousand."

"The trees and bushes," Lewis explained, "are specifically placed. They will help define the trails the cross-country skiers will be using." They will also allow spectators to wit-

ness the speed and progress of the athletes. Shade from the trees will also hinder snowmelt should it get warm.

Evergreens and deciduous trees such as fir, maple, aspen and chokecherry, those native to the area, are being planted. Different kinds of bushes are also being planted. As Lewis put it, they are placing, "tons of stuff" in the ground.

"Tons" is a good way of describing this task. These are not little plants. Most of the trees are at least five feet tall. With a crew of five or six working to forest an area of 1280 acres, is quite an undertaking.

Lewis, however, is not complaining. She is excited to "be in a position to work within the Olympic community."

Lewis said she strongly feels a sense of pride that "we have been chosen to host an event of this magnitude."

Unlike other contributions, once the games are over and everybody has gone home, the trees and bushes Lewis



Wave photo by Margo Black

and her crew planted will continue to grow and live on at Soldier Hollow.

Car Trouble: In Defense of the Lowly G

BY MARGO BLACK
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Normally I do not spend

time defending the material things I possess.

However, one item I own has been the butt of many a joke and I believe the time has come for

me to provide some support on

behalf of this object.

My car, a little GEO Metro has been a dependable vehicle for years. I drive it to Park City and back everyday, and it has yet to leave me stranded. Even when I carelessly let it run out of oil—an expensive mistake for sure—it got me home wheezing and gasping all the way.

It was then, with my poor car patiently awaiting an engine transplant, that I first heard that Metro's were considered "disposable cars" by those who claim to be car connoisseurs.

"It's not worth fixing," was something I heard many times.

Well, this was my faithful buggy, and I wanted it healed. I

swore to anyone who would listen, that I would never allow the car to run out of oil again. If life could be restored, from here on out I would keep it well fed.

My husband and father-in-law located a rebuilt engine, and my husband went to work. The engine, being small made the job somewhat easy.

I am going to take this opportunity to dispel a myth, Metro's do not run on lawn mower engines. I can verify this, as I have seen the engine with my own eyes. It is true that they run on only three cylinders, which makes any incline a challenge, but that can be a good thing. Metro owners will never have to worry about getting a

speeding ticket when traveling uphill.

Vehicle aficionados may scoff, but there actually are benefits to owning a GEO.

The compact size of these GEO's makes parking a breeze. I know from experience that they will even fit in the cart return stalls of most stores. I didn't actually leave it there, but I did check it out.

Mischievous teenagers can be a trial to Metro owners. Mine actually moved the back of my car up on a curb one night—a prank that my son still thinks is funny. Now, he has kids of his own, I hope he finds their antics just as humorous.

There are drawbacks to driving these little fellows. One that I

worry about every winter is mistaken for a big snowball having some SUV run right me. Especially since my mostly white.

Another disadvantage, as previously noted, is that they just very powerful. Some people like driving a car that bikes been seen passing.

Discrimination is something else GEO owners encounter. Oftentimes, gas stations will promotions offering you a free vice or item with every fill. That is a really nice thing, but catch is you must pump at least eight gallons of gas to qualify. All the years I have owned my have yet to squeeze that r

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Team Penning A Sport? Includes Dinner and

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